

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Indonesia

SUBJECT Economic Conditions in Central Java

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1. In former Republican Territory NICA currency is used only in the larger towns. Republican currency is used almost exclusively in the villages and even on the outskirts of the large towns. Any native caught using other than Republican currency is killed by the guerrillas.
2. In early February 1949 NICA currency was sold in Jogjakarta at the rate of one guilder for 60 to 70 Republican rupiahs. In the latter part of February 1949 the price of NICA currency in Solo was one guilder for 90 rupiahs.
3. Only a few goods are for sale in stores in Central Java. Clothing material is scarce enough to be virtually unobtainable in the area. All rubber sheets, sugar, quinine and tobacco in Solo and Jogjakarta were confiscated by the Dutch and shipped to Semarang.
4. In early February 1949 the price of rice in Solo was 90 rupiahs a kilo and in the outlying areas of Solo and Jogjakarta 60 rupiahs. During the same period sugar sold for 15 rupiahs a kilo in the area.
5. It is reported that all plantations between Jogjakarta and Solo have been destroyed with the exception of one which belongs to an American.

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